

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR  
LATENCY-INDEPENDENT PERIPHERAL DEVICE IDENTIFICATION

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

- 5           Method and system for latency-independent peripheral device  
identification. In one embodiment, a computer system receives an interrupt from  
a peripheral device coupled to a computer system communications port. In  
response, an interrupt notification message is posted alerting a notification  
handler running on the system. It is determined whether the interrupt is  
10 indicates peripheral class compliance. In one embodiment, communications  
port device sense pin voltage is determinative. If the interrupt indicates  
peripheral class compliance and the communications port is inactive, the port is  
opened, and inquiry sent to the peripheral device via the open port. The  
computer system then waits for response from the peripheral device. If  
15 response is received within a predetermined time, identification is posted based  
on the response, including peripheral device classification information, so that a  
software handler registered with the operating system can handle the  
identification message when received. Thus, this embodiment imposes no  
time-critical interrupt response.